

relative to the second end of the third sheet so as to expose a desired portion of the third sheet, the second end of the third sheet being connected to a selected one of the first container, the second end of the first sheet, or the second end of the second sheet in the region of the connection between the first container and the second sheet;

- a cut-out portion included as part of the first end of the third sheet that permits the third sheet to be fitted about a selected portion of the patient;
- a layer of adhesive about the periphery of the third sheet that permits the third sheet to be attached to the patient; and

the connection between the third sheet and a selected one of the first container or the second end of the first sheet or the second end of the second sheet being severable such that the third sheet can be removed and discarded when desired.

**26.** A method for protecting selected portions of an operating table during a surgical procedure, the operating table having an upper surface upon which a patient can be placed, comprising the steps of:

providing a surgical drape having a first, closed container that can be selectively opened to form a first opening, the first container being of a size and shape such that a patient can be placed atop the first container when the first container is placed on the upper surface, and a first sheet disposed within the first container, the first sheet having first and second opposed ends, the first end of the first sheet being removable from the first container through the first opening so as to remove a desired portion of the first sheet from the container, the second end of the first sheet remaining within the container;

placing the unopened container on the upper surface;

placing the patient on the container and uncovered portions of the upper surface;

opening the container; and

removing a desired portion of the first sheet from the first container and positioning the removed portion so as to protect desired portions of the operating table.

**27.** The method of claim 26, wherein the surgical drape includes a second sheet having first and second opposed ends, the second end of the second sheet being connected to the second end of the first sheet, the first end of the second sheet being movable relative to the second end of the second sheet so as to expose a desired portion of the second sheet, and comprising the further steps of:

exposing a desired portion of the second sheet and placing the exposed portion on the upper surface prior to the step of placing the patient on the container and uncovered portions of the upper surface.

**28.** The method of claim 27, further comprising the steps of:

providing a third, fluid-impervious sheet having first and second ends, the first end of the third sheet being movable relative to the second end of the third sheet so as to expose a desired portion of the third sheet, the second end of the third sheet being connected to a selected one of the first container, the second end of the first sheet, or the second end of the second sheet in the region of the connection between the first container and the second sheet, the third sheet having a configuration that conforms to a desired portion of the patient;

placing the third sheet in contact with the patient so as to cover selected portions of the patient;

conducting pre-operative preparations of the patient; and

severing and removing the third sheet after pre-operative preparations have been completed.

\* \* \* \* \*